

Approved For Release 2000/08/26 : CIA-RDP75-00001R000100  
LIGHT

E - 111,492

S - 131,594

MAY 11 1966

CPYRGHT

## Bad Relations Congressional Check On CIA Urged

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WASHINGTON — Should Congress spy on the spies?

Some senators think so, and are pushing for tighter congressional surveillance of the Central Intelligence Agency, the supposedly super-secret spy agency which they fear is making international policy instead of just carrying it out.

There are a lot of people hereabouts, however, who have come to suspect that what the CIA needs is not congressional supervisors so much as a good public relations firm.

The CIA is both freely discussed and openly criticized these days, just as though it were no more secretive than the Department of Health, Education and Welfare. It is publicly involved in a slander suit in Baltimore. It is openly recruiting trainees on college campuses. It is still being attacked for its analysis of the Dominican Republic crisis nearly a year ago. It has just been the subject of an exhaustive expose in the New York Times. And pilots going into Dulles International airport in nearby Virginia use the huge CIA headquarters as a landmark.

### LITTLE CONFIDENCE

The CIA director, Admiral William Raborn, is one of President Johnson's most controversial appointees. Raborn, the former director of the successful Polaris development program, has frequently displayed a startling lack of comprehension of the business of spying. He has failed to inspire confidence either inside or outside the agency.

When he took the job, Raborn promised President Johnson only that he would stay one year. It is believed here that when the year is up in July, the President will not try to persuade him to stay longer.

The search for a new chief, always an awkward proposition, will undoubtedly focus yet more attention to the CIA.

A Senate Appropriations Subcommittee now is the only legislative body with authority to look into the activities of CIA, and it has a reputation for handling the CIA gingerly. Much of the spy agency's budget is muffled in phoney items included in other department budgets, and congressmen have long been uneasy about approving all that money — nobody knows the figure, but it is at a minimum hundreds of millions — for something about which they know literally nothing.

### TRIES TO COPE

The executive branch has a super-cabinet body, the National Security Council, which deals exclusively with all elements of national security. Congress, however, still tries to cope with national security problems under the old-fashioned, strictly compartmentalized committee system, in which foreign aid, budgets, trade problems, etc., fall under separate committees.

Sen. Eugene McCarthy (D-Minn.), a member of the foreign relations committee, feels that his committee should have a say-so over CIA just like appropriations does. Sen. Stephen Young (D-Ohio), thinks a totally new joint committee ought to be established to oversee the CIA.

Some two years ago, then-Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey proposed that a powerful new congressional committee modeled after the NSC be formed to deal with all questions of national security, including the CIA and its sister spy outfits — State Department, Army, Air Force, and Navy intelligence, as well as the FBI.

His idea was to provide an overseeing body that included members of the various committees involved in foreign affairs, plus the Democratic and

that such a body could coordinate all intelligence efforts and eliminate the customary rivalry between committees which sometimes hampers legislative activities.

### NOT IN FAVOR

The White House is not likely to go for any of the proposals for a greater congressional voice in the spy machinery. Congressmen simply cannot seem to resist the temptation to display how much they know and create publicity for themselves. Nearly every piece of information known to more than one congressman at a time finds its way into the public print. Yet to be effective, CIA's operations should be kept secret.

Besides, if CIA isn't secret any more, word may get about that 90 per cent of its work is done by rather ordinary bureaucrats; not thousands of romantic James Bonds. And that, of course, would ruin everything.